



News for Immediate Release

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State Promotes Flood Risk Awareness Aimed at Keeping People Safe and Reducing Property Damage

Central Valley Property Owners to Receive Flood Risk Notifications

SACRAMENTO – To promote flood risk awareness, keep people safe and reduce potential property damage from flooding, Central Valley property owners will soon receive flood risk information guides. The pamphlets are being distributed by California's Department of Water Resources (DWR) Flood Risk Notification Program, as part of the FloodSAFE California Initiative, to encourage individual awareness and action to help reduce flood risk.

Under State law (AB 156) adopted in 2007, DWR is mandated to send a notification each year to properties located behind any State-Federal levee and within a Levee Flood Protection Zone (LFPZ). Beginning this month, nearly 275,000 Central Valley property owners in 17 counties will receive the State's first-ever "Flood Risk Notice," a tool to raise flood risk awareness.

DWR LFPZ maps are used to determine which property owners are subject to notice; the LFPZs include portions of Sacramento, San Joaquin, Yolo, Sutter, Yuba, Butte, Fresno, Merced, Tehama, Colusa, Glenn, Solano, Stanislaus, Lake, Placer, Plumas, and Madera counties.

Property owners may visit the program's interactive website at www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk and enter their address to get detailed information about their flood risk, including the sources of flooding and potential flood depths for their properties.

For more information on the DWR's Flood Risk Notification Program, please call 1-877-769-7475 or email myfloodrisk@water.ca.gov

Background on the FloodSAFE California Initiative

In 2005, the California Department of Water Resources outlined the flood challenges facing California and offered specific recommendations for administrative action and legislative changes. In 2006, DWR launched FloodSAFE California – a multi-faceted initiative to improve public safety through integrated flood management, supported by almost \$5 billion in voter-approved bond measures. In 2007, new flood bills were passed focusing on responsible floodplain land use planning, proactive cost-sharing rules, shared responsibility for flood safety, and ensuring that adequate maintenance is performed.

With the adoption of the 2007 flood legislation, AB 156 required DWR to create Central Valley Flood Protection Zone Maps, which were then used to determine the 275,000 property owners who will receive the flood risk notices. Another of the 2007 legislation, SB 5, called upon DWR to develop a longer-term plan to guide the use of the 2006 public safety bond funds. SB 5 requires DWR to prepare the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP). The 2012 CVFPP will set the foundation for long-term flood risk reduction and provide recommendations for systemwide flood management improvements in the Central Valley.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.